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(54) Title: TISSUE CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHODS

(57) Abstract

A tissue connector assembly comprising a clip movable between an open configuration and a closed configuration and a mechanical restraining device attached to the clip for restraining the clip in its open configuration. A needle may be releasably attached to the clip. A flexible member may also interconnect the clip and the needle. In one embodiment, a plurality of strands are releasably attachable to the clip for restraining the clip in its open configuration. A method for connecting tissues is also disclosed.

